

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

Replace the abstract with the attached abstract.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Leslie Wong whose telephone number is (571)272-1411. The examiner can normally be reached on Tuesday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Keith Hendricks can be reached on 571-272-1401. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Leslie Wong/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 1794

LAW
July 30, 2009

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method of preparing a phenolic polymer comprising: a) protecting at least one hydroxyl group of a substituted or unsubstituted phenol represented by Structural Formula (XXIX), wherein: R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{14} and R_{15} are independently -H, -OH, -NH, -SH, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl or aryl group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy carbonyl or aryloxy carbonyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkoxy group or a saturated or unsaturated carboxylic acid group; or R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{14} or R_{15} , in conjunction with an adjacent R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{14} or R_{15} , forms a substituted or unsubstituted alkylene dioxy group; provided that at least one of R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{14} or R_{15} is a tert-butyl group 1-ethenyl-2-carboxylic acid or ester thereof, a substituted or unsubstituted alkylene dioxy group or a substituted or unsubstituted n-alkoxy carbonyl group, at least one of R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{14} or R_{15} is a hydroxyl group, and at least one of R_{11} , R_{12} , R_{13} , R_{14} and R_{15} is-H; with a protecting group, wherein thereby obtaining one or more protected hydroxyl groups; and b) polymerizing the substituted or unsubstituted phenol, thereby obtaining the phenolic polymer.